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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5747  
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0654  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4201  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0994  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4123  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS JAKARTA 002189

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
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DEPT FOR EAP/MTS AND EB/IFD/ODF  
TREASURY FOR TFCA - BERG  
DEPARTMENT FOR OES/IET and OES/ETC  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING PLEASE PASS TO CEQ CONNAUGHTON

E.O. 12598: N/A

TAGS: [SENV](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [ENRG](#) [PGOV](#) [ID](#)

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT MINISTER WITOELAR WELCOMES U.S. ENGAGEMENT ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE

¶1. (SBU) Summary. Minister of Health Rachmat Witoelar told the Ambassador on August 9 that he welcomed President Bush's climate change initiative and the upcoming conference on climate change in Washington, DC. He welcomed opportunities for dialogue, such as the upcoming visit of White House Council on Environmental Quality Chairman James Connaughton. The Minister hopes that Presidents Bush and Yudhoyono (SBY) will discuss climate change at September's Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in Sydney. The Ambassador affirmed the U.S. desire to participate constructively at COP-13. End Summary.

September Climate Change Conference and COP-13  
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¶2. (SBU) The Minister expressed appreciation for U.S. engagement and leadership on climate change, including the recent announcement of the September 27-28 "Conference on Energy Security and Climate Change" in Washington, DC. Confirming that Indonesia will attend, he said that the Government of Indonesia (GOI) has not yet determined the composition of its delegation to the conference, but that he expected to be part of it. The Minister expressed confidence that President Bush's initiative will provide opportunities for serious dialogue on climate change prior to the COP-13 conference in December. He stated that this initiative might help pressure countries like Russia, China, and India to engage constructively at COP-13.

¶3. (SBU) The Minister welcomed the August 15-16 visit to Indonesia of CEQ Chairman James L. Connaughton and Senior Climate Change Negotiator Harlan Watson. He termed it an opportunity to discuss the substantive agenda of both the September conference as well as the December COP-13 conference in Bali. He acknowledged that hosting a successful COP-13 (Minister Witoelar will chair the conference) will be a challenge, and welcomed any opportunities for countries to discuss their respective positions beforehand so that the basis for a consensus might emerge by December. The Minister hoped that Presidents Bush and SBY would discuss the environment and climate change at September's Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in Sydney.

¶4. (SBU) The Ambassador noted that the U.S. wants to participate constructively at COP-13. He pointed out that the U.S. already contributes to a number of conservation and environment programs in Indonesia. The Ambassador and the Minister pledged to cooperate in

the months leading up to COP-13.

September 10 Climate Change Workshop

15. (U) The Minister informed the Ambassador that the GOI, the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, and Yayasan Pelangi Indonesia (a local environmental NGO), will hold a one-day workshop in Jakarta on September 10 to educate Indonesian stakeholders about Indonesian and U.S. perspectives on climate change. He also welcomed USG participation and any potential financial support for the workshop. The Ambassador promised to explore this possibility.

HUME